

**CLAIMS**

1. A method comprising:

detecting a printer error;

if the printer error has occurred a predetermined number of times within a predetermined time period, generating an error message; and

if the printer error has not occurred a predetermined number of times within the predetermined time period, rebooting the printer.

2. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising if the printer error has occurred a predetermined number of consecutive times, generating an error message.

3. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising if the printer error has occurred a predetermined number of times within the predetermined time period, notifying a network administrator of the printer errors.

4. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein logging the printer error in an error log includes recording a date and time that the printer error occurred.

5. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein logging the printer error in an error log includes recording an identification of the print job being handled when the printer error occurred.

6. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein logging the printer error in an error log includes recording an error type associated with the printer error.

7. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein rebooting the printer further includes identifying a print job that was printing during the detected printer error and attempting to reprint the identified print job.

8. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising logging the printer error in an error log.

9. A method comprising:

detecting a printer error;

logging the printer error in an error log;

if the printer error has occurred a predetermined number of consecutive times, generating an error message; and

if the printer error has not occurred a predetermined number of consecutive times, rebooting the printer.

10. A method as recited in claim 9 further comprising if the printer error has occurred a predetermined number of times within a predetermined time period, generating an error message.

11. A method as recited in claim 9 further comprising if the printer error has occurred a predetermined number of consecutive times, notifying a network administrator of the printer errors.

12. A method as recited in claim 9 wherein rebooting the printer further includes identifying a print job that was printing during the detected printer error and attempting to reprint the identified print job.

13. A method comprising:  
detecting a printer error;  
adding X points to a printer error counter;  
adding Y points to the printer error counter if a common error occurred  
within a predetermined time period;  
determining whether the printer error counter exceeds a threshold value;  
and  
rebooting the printer if the printer error counter does not exceed the  
threshold value.

14. A method as recited in claim 13 further comprising notifying a  
network administrator of the printer errors if the printer error counter exceeds  
the threshold value.

15. A method as recited in claim 13 wherein rebooting the printer  
includes identifying a print job that was printing when the printer error was  
detected and attempting to reprint the identified print job.

16. A method as recited in claim 13 wherein the value of X varies  
depending on the type of printer error detected.

17. A method as recited in claim 13 wherein the value of Y varies  
depending on the type of printer error detected.

18. A printer comprising:

a control panel configured to display information to a user of the printer;  
an error log configured to store information regarding printer errors detected by the printer;

an error analysis module configured to analyze printer errors stored in the error log; and

wherein the error analysis module is further configured to reboot the printer if a particular printer error has not occurred a predetermined number of times within a predetermined time period.

19. A printer as recited in claim 18 wherein the error analysis module is further configured to generate an error message on the control panel if a particular printer error has occurred twice within the predetermined time period.

20. A printer as recited in claim 18 wherein the error log stores a date and time that the printer error occurred.

21. A printer as recited in claim 18 wherein the error log stores an error type associated with the printer error.

22. A printer as recited in claim 18 wherein the error log stores information regarding the print job being processed when the printer error occurred.